CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

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Financial Campaign of the PCU

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.

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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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- 1. Justicia, the Communist newspaper, announced in its issues of 16 and 17 December 1953 that a large financial campaign was to begin on 19 December 1953. The campaign was to be developed in two steps, with the first step terminating in March 1954 and the second continuing from August 1954 until December 1954. The stated goals of the campaign were to collect 80,000 Uruguayan pesos in each step, or a total of 160,000 pesos, and to obtain 5,000 new contributors to the Party. The funds collected were to be used for general Uruguayan Communist Party (PCU) activity and for the election of Eugenio GOMEZ, secretary-general of the PCU, to the Uruguayan Senate.
- 2. The responsibility for the conduct of the financial campaign is vested in a Commission of Finances which is composed of Rodney ARISMENDI, Francisco PAZOS, Alberto SUAREZ, (fnu) AMELJENDA, and one other member. This commission is directly responsible to the National Committee and reports directly to the National Committee at a special meeting which is held in the PCU Headquarters on Thursdays at 9:30 p.m. The actual collection of the funds is done by the secretaries of the cells, who then deliver the collections to Francisco PAZOS, who is responsible for the general accounting and for giving the progress of the campaign the necessary publicity in Justicia.
- 3. According to Blanca GONZALEZ, a cell secretary in Montevideo, the leaders of the PCU are very unhappy with the results of the first step of the financial campaign. As of 15 March 1954 the PCU has been able to collect only 27,014 pesos, 2 from slightly more than 400 contributors. A final tally of the funds collected is now being made under the direction of PAZOS, but it is evident to all of the leaders of the Party that the sum collected will fall far short of the stated goal of 80,000 pesos for the first step.

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25X1A l. Comment. AMEIJENDA apparently serves in a liaison capacity with the Commission of Finances, and possibly is a contact with the Soviet Legation.

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2. Comment. Assuming that the "contributors" referred to in Justicia are private individuals, even this figure would seem to be quite inflated. For example, Justicia for 16 February 1954 claimed that of the total amount which had been collected, the "South" and the "Port" section of the city had collected, respectively, 4,514 pesos and 4,303 pesos, from 72 and 79 contributors. Breaking down these figures, it would mean a per capita contribution of 64 pesos and 54 pesos, respectively. Considering the fact that these sections of the city are populated almost completely by laborers, it would seem that the per capita figure given above would unquestionably be excessive for these sections of the city.

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